

Eastern State Penitentiary  
Bounded by Fairmount Avenue, Corinthian Avenue,  
Brown Street and Twenty-second Street  
Philadelphia  
Philadelphia County  
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-1729

HABS

PA,

SI-PHIL

354 -

PHOTOGRAPHS  
HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

HABS  
PA,  
51-PHILA,  
354-

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE	COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY
PENNSYLVANIA	PHILADELPHIA	PHILADELPHIA
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME)		HABS NO.
EASTERN STATE PENITENTIARY		PA-1729
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES)		
Bounded by Fairmount Avenue, Corinthian Avenue, Brown Street and Twenty-second Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
1823-36	John Haviland (1792-1852), architect Jacob Souder, master mason	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE)		
The prison, one of the oldest in the nation and designed by John Haviland, a noted prison architect, was originally built on the Pennsylvania System, a Quaker penal philosophy stressing solitary confinement and betterment. The prison is also important for its Gothic Revival design and for its impressive radial plan.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS)		
Coursed granite ashlar		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE)		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE		
Main portion: four- and six-sided battlemented towers with lancet windows.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES		
Three radial wings added 1877, one wing 1894, one wing 1911. Original number of radial buildings was seven.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
Designated National Historic Landmark 1965		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.)		
Webster, Richard. <u>Philadelphia Preserved</u> . Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1976.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION	DATE	
Susan McCown, arch. historian, Historic American Bldgs. Survey	Feb. 21, 1984	

ADDENDUM TO:  
EASTERN STATE PENITENTIARY  
2125 Fairmount Avenue  
Philadelphia  
Philadelphia County  
Pennsylvania

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PHOTOGRAPHS

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U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240-0001

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